

12/12/05 - (15)

**SELECTMENS MINUTES**  
**November 28, 2005**  
**7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Walter Foster, Dore' Hunter, Lauren Rosenzweig, Town Manager and Asst. Manager. The meeting was televised

**CITIZENS' CONCERNS**

Gena Manalan spoke about the Kmart signs over the week end. She was concerned about the proliferation of signs all over the area and up and down Route 2. Ms. Manalan asked that the Board take action. Walter Foster asked if she saw the E-mail from Peter. She had not yet seen it. He outlined the e-mail. Don was asked to give an outline of the reasons why enforcement is difficult. Lauren said this should be taken up at EDC and explained it was a hard choice to let the enforcement officer go when cuts have to be taken. David Manalan spoke about this on going problem. He suggested that the signs be designated Litter and we will ticket them for it.

**SEWER COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS**

**OPERATIONAL MINUTE** --None Needed

**NO PLACE FOR HATE, MS. GILMAN** – Steve and Bernice Baran as well as several other members of the Acton Group were present. Ms. Gilman outlined the purpose and role of their committee. Lauren thanked them for coming in and she noted her attendance at the immigrant work shop. Lauren said she would like to see family matching. Dore' noted that he is involved through his wife English as a second language instructor in Boston at the work site. Walter asked what we could do to facilitate their program.

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES** – Tom Dunn made a presentation to the Board. He said the library is not adequately paid or staffed and referred to his prepared materials which highlighted this. They asked the Selectmen to try to fund their requests. Dore' said he is not hopeful that the Library will get additional funds. Dore' said that this presentation should be given to the School Boards. Lauren said she agrees with Dore' and thanked them for their efforts. Walter asked about priority of positions needed. Community Service person was something they needed. Walter noted that the split with the Schools is beginning and that they are working toward change. He urged them to cooperate with the schools as they too have been hit hard and do not have any librarians. Dore' suggested that the packet prepared be presented to the ALG.

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION INTERVIEW - KIMBERLY CONNORS HUGHES** – Lauren asked what she felt the role was of the Commission. While she is new to town, she felt that there should be more interaction with the school children to get them involved so that they appreciate history.

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to appoint Kimberly Connors Hughes as full member of the Historical Commission, with a term to expire 6/30/08 LAUREN ROSENZWEIG– second UNANIMOUS VOTE

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION - AARON W. MOORE-**

The Board interviewed Mr. Moore for his position on the Historic District Commission. He has had experience with renovating and living in old houses. Lauren asked about incentives for people to preserve their homes to up keep historic properties, he has not looked at that, but will. DORE' HUNTER – Moved to appoint Mr. Moore to the HDC, with a term to expire 6/30/08. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second. UNANIMOUS VOTE

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE INTERVIEW, LESLIE HOGAN –**

Lauren asked what she would like changed. Leslie does not have a Transportation background, but she is a Realtor and her clients are interested in transportation. She also noted that she felt that more public transportation for those coming out west from the city would be appreciated.

DORE' HUNTER -Moved to appoint Ms. Hogan as full member of the Transportation Advisory Committee with a term to expire 6/30/08 LAUREN ROSENZWEIG– second UNANIMOUS VOTE

**MADISON PLACE, LIP, 737-741 MAIN STREET –** Jenn Shea, Dennis Ring and Jay Peabody were present to make the presentation to the Board. They will have 8 units and two being given to the Town. They hope to have the project look much the same as Franklin Place. They are working with ACHC to lower the prices and they will continue to cooperate. The site is 3.8 Acres. They are looking for endorsement from the Selectmen. ACHC has endorsed it conceptually. They have been meeting with Town boards. They have tried to answer all questions raised by the Town. They are looking for density. Lauren disclosed she is a member of the Country Club. She noted that it is wonderful to provide this to new homeowners. She asked that the garages in the future be designed in the back or side of the unit. Lauren wanted to ask if they could preserve the house currently on site. They noted they just found out it was on the register and will be working with the Town through the Bylaw to work this out.

Pat Murphy, Main Street spoke about a few points, such as rail trail and sidewalks and building façade and the Planner's comments about the four garages. He was concerned about landscaping and it will change the environment and have an effect on his property value.

Jenn asked that the Board of Selectmen provide a letter of support based on conceptual plans. Walter noted that they need to address the issues brought up tonight, and asked for a sketch landscape plan. DORE' HUNTER - Moved to endorse the use of the cooperative process. WALTER FOSTER – Second Lauren wanted to put it over to the next meeting. Lauren Abstained, DORE' HUNTER – second.

**TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING –** Jim Kotanchick outlined the decisions that need to be addressed. David Detrickson Resident and business owners, they have opposed the shift. Steve Levenski, president of the Chamber and a business owner at 83 Great Road spoke about the Chamber and the businesses that have gone out of business. Herman as Finance Committee liaison voted to not support a split tax rate. Bill Lawrence from the Chamber gave a presentation on the cost to towns that vote a split tax rate

Walter discussed two letters that were received urging split tax rate. He discussed Peter Ashton's observations and fairness level and he will not be advocating a split rate. DORE' HUNTER – Moved to not shift the residential factor of 100%, Not to adopt the Open Space Discount, not to adopt the Residential Exemption of the Small Commercial Exemption. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second. UNANIMOUS VOTE

#### **PUBLIC SHADE TREET REMOVAL HEARING (CONTINUED FROM 11/1/050**

Dore' said he had a chance to review the area and he will not support the removal of the trees in question. Lauren noted the relatively small traffic flow and agreed with Dore'. DORE' HUNTER - Moved to save the trees, LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second, UNANIMOUS VOTE

### **SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS**

#### **POWDER MILL PLAZA SEWER EXTENSION MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as presented. LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second. UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**COMMUTER LOT CAR POOL FEE** – Dore' discussed the fees to be associated with this pilot program. The \$50 fee will fund the service and felt that they would be getting a prime location to park in. They recommend that we include non-residents and will have to park somewhere else and drive in in an Acton car. DORE' HUNTER - Move to support a \$50 car pool fee for a six month period at the Commuter Lot., LAUREN ROSENZWEIG – second. UNANIMOUS

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Walter spoke about the CPA requests. They have received them on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Walter wanted to have those projects represented and possible phasing in in some of the requests.

Dore' asked if Town Counsel was looking into the sign littering issue. He felt we need to make an example of this and we will need to address these and perhaps the violation fee be raised to actual cost of the enforcement.

Walter updated the Board on the ALG and the split with the Schools discussion.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

DORE' HUNTER - Moved to approve with the additional Extra Information, One Day Liquor License, Generator Gift from the Null's and a \$9,000 Check from FEDEX. WALTER FOSTER –second. , UNANIMOUS VOTE.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Don spoke about the warrant there were two warrants for public school employee payment to change the pay from one employee to the correct employee.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

None Required

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Christine Joyce, Clerk

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Clerk, Board of Selectmen

Date: \_\_\_\_\_